Container Terminal in Chennai

3843. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had given in principle approval for the development of a second container terminal in Chennai Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said project would be implemented on Built-Operate-Transfer (BOT) basis; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the proposed terminal capacity would be sealable to six lakh TEUs (Twenty-foot equivalent units) from the second year of operation?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) In-principle approval has been conveyed by Government of India on 31.3.2005 for the development of second container terminal in Chennai Port at the modernized East Quay and the adjoining South Quay-Ill berths, with quay length of 826m and backup area of 28 hectares. The proposed container terminal, to be developed on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis, is estimated to cost Rs. 491 crore with a capacity to handle 6 lakhs twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) per annum from the second year of operation. The Port is expected to contribute Rs. 100 crore for developmental works. Notice inviting Request for Qualification has been issued on 16.4.2005 and the last date for submission of applications is 20.6.2005.

Condition of NH-31

†3844. SHRI VIDYA SAGAR NISHAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that condition of National Highways No. 31 between Pasraha and Narayanpur remain dilapidated due to which the water of Kosi and Ganga get clogged between National Highways No. 31 and railway line causing soil to become wet and get spread and deteriorating the road everyday;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to improve the condition of the said Highways soon;

(c) if so, by when; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.